

AGRICULTURAL, & C.

Agriculture in Austria.

The plains of Austria, about Vienna, resemble our small western prairies. As far as the eye can reach the land appears to be a continuous crop of wheat and Indian corn; it being the only country I have yet seen where corn is cultivated as a staple crop. The cultivation, however, of all the land, is done in strips or patches, which forms one of the most singular features of European landscapes. The subdivision of farm lands has been going on for so many generations that now the hard working peasant may possess a small farm twenty rods wide and half a mile long. Here, as in many other parts of Europe—only it seems to me a little more so—the women do nearly all the labor of the field. I have counted thirty engaged at one time in reaping down a field of wheat. I have seen no kind of agricultural machinery at work, except a rude kind of two wheeled plow, which is no more than the Egyptians did three thousand years ago. The old fashioned grain cradle is sometimes used, but the sickle, in the hands of women, like in the days of Moab and Ruth—though I suppose Moab worked—seems yet to stand its ground against all the ingenuity of McCormick, Hussey, Wood and others. However, labor is so cheap here, and farms, as a general thing, are so small that it would scarcely pay to employ expensive machinery, such as is necessary to the proper cultivation of the large farms in our country.—*Ed. Cor. Sci. Amer.*

Agricultural Items.

Two grains of alum will clarify a pint of muddy water.

Pence, rolls will keep longest when split in October, and the bark peeled off.

One pound of good hay is worth four pounds of good straw in making either manure or the flesh of the animals.

One pound of cotton seed hulled is worth ten pounds of corn, to fatten hogs or beef cattle, or to winter sheep on.

The best time for painting is in the early Winter, or early Spring, or in other words, when the weather is rather cool than either hot or cold.

Grindstones should be kept always under shelter, and no water touch them except when in use. Then let the water drip rapidly upon them.

The Louisville Herald, under the head of "Agricultural," asks "How near is Heaven?" To which we answer, "He that putteth his hand to the plough, and looketh back, is not worthy."

Cotton used to cost seven and a half cents, now it costs at least twelve and a half cents to produce it. Advised: plant less cotton and more corn, peas, and potatoes; and raise hogs, sheep, and cattle, if not horses.

Domestic Recipes.

SOPP GINGERBREAD.—1 cup of molasses; 1 cup of water; 1 large spoonful of ginger; 1 teaspoonful of saleratus; a little salt, and a piece of shortening as large as an egg.

SOUP CAKE.—1 cup white sugar; 1 do. sweet milk; 1 egg; 21 tablespoons of melted butter; 2 teaspoons of cream tartar; 1 do. soda; 1 pint of flour; extract of lemon.

TEA CAKE.—2 cups of sugar; 1 do. butter; 3 teaspoons soda; nutmeg to taste; flour sufficient to enable you to roll it out. Bake in a moderately warm oven.

GUSTARD PIE.—1 cup of sugar, 2 tablespoons of butter, stirred to cream; add 2 eggs, 1 tablespoon of flour, half cup of milk and one cup of cold water; season with nutmeg.

SURPRISE INDIAN LOAF.—1 quart of sour milk; 1 quart of Indian meal; 1 pint of flour; 1 cup of molasses; 1 tablespoon of salt; 1 tablespoon of soda. Stir well. Steam two hours and bake one hour.

CHOW-CHOW.—Three heads of cabbage, twenty-five peppers, half a pint of white mustard seed, and grated horse radish. Cut the cabbage fine, chop the peppers, and then put in the jar a layer of peppers, and a layer of cabbage, then a little salt, and sprinkle a little horse radish and mustard seed over the whole, and so on, until the ingredients are in the jar; then fill the jar with cold vinegar, to every quart of which dissolve two ounces of brown sugar.

HOW TO GROW ONIONS.—The Prairie Farmer gives the following directions for growing onions:

"One half bushel common salt, one pound sulphur, two ounces carbonate of ammonia. This amount to be applied at one time—the first application to be made as soon as the onions come up. If the ground should get hard and woody, the amount should be doubled or even tripled. This is the famous recipe by which so many onions were said to be grown in Iowa last year. No hoeing or weeding is required."

"The composition is for one acre, to be applied once a week for eight weeks, upon onions sown broadcast.

CURE FOR MANGE IN PIGS.—Take one ounce of sulphur, four ounces of powdered charcoal, and half a pint of soft soap. Mix thoroughly and rub it all over the pigs, three mornings in succession.

OPALS FOR CHICKEN OSTEOPATHY.—Take a lump of asafetida, the size of a hulled walnut, dissolved in boiling water, mix with meal and

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